

Urban District Council of Exmouth



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1970

ACC. BY
R

TOWN HALL,
EXMOUTH.

EXMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
EXMOUTH.

July 1970.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report for 1970. As in previous years the report includes, sections kindly supplied by the Senior Public Health Inspector and the Housing Officer.

Again an increase in the Registrar Generals estimation of the mid-year population has been recorded and the population figure is now 23,790, whilst the number of inhabited dwellings has risen to 9,329.

During the year there were 316 live births, representing a standardised live birth rate of 19.3 which is higher than the rate for England and Wales (16.0).

The number of deaths recorded during 1970 was 489, this gives a standardised death rate of 9.9 which compares favourably with the England and Wales rate of 11.7. I am pleased to record that the infant Mortality rate was 9 per 1000 live births and was only half of the rate for England and Wales (18.0).

Only 36 cases of infectious diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) were notified and of this total 27 were measles. This relatively low incidence of infectious disease is without doubt due to the comprehensive and energetic immunisation programme which is being pursued in this District. This programme covers, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis, English Measles, German Measles (11 - 14 year old girls) and Tuberculosis B.C.G. (13 year old boys and girls).

Finally once again I would like to thank all members of the Council and the staff for their continued interest shown and co-operation given to me during the year.

I have the honour to be
Your Obedient Servant

L. G. ANDERSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

area in acres	5,395
Wotton's population mid-year 1970	23,750
Number of inhabited dwellings (1968 March 1970)	9,528
Estimated value (1968 March 1970)	23,163,821
Estimated product of a party rate	23,700

S T A F F

VITAL STATISTICS

(a) Area

Medical Officer of Health.

L. G. Anderson, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Legitimate	24	24	24
Illegitimate	2	2	2
Total	26	26	26

Senior Public Health Inspector.

D. R. Redgwell, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	13.2
Standardised live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	13.3

Public Health Inspector.

B. J. Stowell, M.A.P.H.I.

(b) Area

Clerk to Health Department.

Mrs. J. Brown.

Legitimate	3	3	3
Illegitimate	1	1	1
Total	4	4	4

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	15
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births England and Wales	15

(c) Deaths

Deaths	725	725	725
Total	725	725	725

Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	20.5
Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	20.7
Death rate per 1,000 civilian population, England and Wales	21.7

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health.

L. G. Anderson, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

E. J. Brown, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector.

E. J. Brown, M.A., F.R.I.

Clerk to Health Department.

Mrs. J. Brown.

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STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	5,295
Resident population mid-year 1970	23,790
Number of inhabited dwellings (31st March 1970)	9,329
Rateable Value (31st March 1970)	£1,163,821
Estimated product of a penny rate	£4,700

VITAL STATISTICS.(a) Live Births.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	134	149	283
Illegitimate	21	12	33
Total	155	161	316

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	13.2
Standardised live birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	19.3
Live birth rate per 1,000 estimate civilian population of England and Wales.	16.0

(b) Still Births.

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Total	1	4	5

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	16
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births England and Wales.	13

(c) Deaths.

	Males	Females	Total
	234	255	489
Corrected death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			20.6
Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			9.9
Death rate per 1,000 civilian population, England and Wales			11.7

(d) Infant Mortality (deaths of infants under one year).

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	2	1	3

Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births 9

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births
England and Wales. 18

3. LIVE BIRTH RATE (rate per 1,000 estimated resident population).

During 1970 a total of 316 babies were born, 155 males and 161 females. This total was 13 more than the previous year.

The standardised rate per 1,000 estimated resident population was 19.3 which is higher than the rate for England and Wales as a whole, 16.0.

The live birth rate during the last ten years was as follows:-

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Exmouth	14.2	15.2	14.9	16.3	14.3	15.2	14.9	12.3	12.8	13.2
Standardised	15.5	16.6	19.1	20.8	18.3	19.5	21.6	17.8	18.6	19.3
England & Wales	17.4	18.0	18.2	18.4	18.0	17.7	17.2	16.9	16.3	16.0

4. ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH RATE (rate per 1,000 live births.)

Of the 316 children born in 1970, 33 were illegitimate. The rate per 1,000 live births was 100.4, compared with 24 illegitimate births in 1969, representing an illegitimate birth rate of 79.2. The illegitimate birth rate during the last ten years is as follows:-

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Exmouth	65.0	69.0	75.6	109.1	69.0	100.0	77.5	87.5	79.2	100.4

5. STILL BIRTHS (rate per 1,000 live and still births).

There were 5 still births in 1970, the same number as in the previous year. The still birth rate of 16.0 was higher than the rate for England and Wales as a whole, 13.0. The following table shows the still births rate for the last ten years:-

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Exmouth.	3.6	13.0	6.6	11.8	6.6	9.3	9.0	17.0	16.0	16.0
England & Wales.	18.7	18.1	17.3	16.3	15.7	15.3	14.8	14.0	13.0	13.0

DEATHS.

During 1970, 489 persons normally resident in the urban district died, 234 males and 255 females. This represents a corrected death rate of 20.6, but when allowances for age and sex distribution have been made, represents a standardised death rate of 9.9 which is lower than the rate for England & Wales, 11.7.

The following table shows the corrected and standardised death rates for Exmouth for the last ten years:-

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Corrected	17.3	17.5	21.3	19.1	19.3	21.6	16.9	17.5	18.6	20.6
Standardised	12.2	12.6	13.5	11.8	11.0	12.1	8.5	8.7	8.7	9.9
England & Wales	12.0	11.9	12.5	11.3	11.5	11.7	11.2	11.9	11.9	11.7

(a) Age at Death.

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Males	71.0	70.1	73.1	72.2	71.3	71.0	71.9	70.7	71.4	71.2
Females	73.6	76.4	76.1	75.8	75.1	73.3	75.2	76.5	78.2	76.9
Both Sexes	72.6	73.4	74.8	74.2	73.2	72.1	73.8	74.1	75.4	75.7
England & M	68.1	68.1	68.0	68.8	68.9	65.9	66.0	66.6	69.1	-
Wales										
F	73.9	74.0	73.9	74.5	74.7	71.9	72.0	72.6	75.1	-

(b) Expectation of Life

The future average lifetime of a male child aged one year in 1970 was 69.1 years and for a female child the life expectancy was 75.1 years.

(c) Causes of Death.

As in previous years, the most common cause of death was heart disease, 156 cases; cerebrovascular diseases were responsible for 67 deaths, and cancer was the cause of 84 deaths.

Causes of Deaths.

The following table shows the causes of death (data supplied by the Registrar General).

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	-	1
<u>Cancer.</u>			
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	5	4	9
" Intestine	5	8	13
" Lung, Bronchus	11	3	14
" Breast	1	9	10
" Uterus	-	2	2
" Prostate	4	-	4
Leukaemia	1	1	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	12	16	28
Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	2	-	2
Diabetes Mellitus	-	2	2
Avitaminoses, etc.	-	1	1
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	2	3
Anaemias	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Blood etc.	-	2	2
Mental Disorders	1	1	2
Multiple Sclerosis	-	2	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System	3	1	4
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	4	5
Hypertensive Disease	4	7	11
Ischaemic Heart Disease	69	55	124
Other Forms of Heart Disease	11	21	32
Cerebrovascular Disease	31	36	67
Other diseases of circulatory system	8	10	18
Influenza	11	7	18
Pneumonia	9	26	35
Bronchitis and Emphysema	14	4	18
Other Diseases of respiratory system	-	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	2	6	8
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	2	3
Other diseases of digestive system	5	2	7
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	1	3	4
Diseases of skin, subcutaneous tissue	-	1	1
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system.	1	1	2
Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	1	-	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality.	1	1	2
Symptoms and ill defined conditions.	2	5	7
Motor vehicle accidents.	5	2	7
All other accidents.	4	4	8
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	3	3	6
All other external causes.	1	-	1
Total.	234	255	489

Abstract of Death Returns 1970.(a) Accidents.

<u>Sex.</u>	<u>Age.</u>	<u>Cause.</u>
Male	85	Head injuries.
Male	51	Subdural haematoma and cerebral softening.
Female	79	Fractured Pelvis
Female	82	Multiple injuries, fractured skull and brain damage.

(b) Misadventure.

Female	59	Barbiturate poisoning.
Male	60	Ingestion of barbiturate
Female	70	Fractured skull, subdural haemorrhage (fall on steps at home)
Male	77	Fractured right Femur (fall in bedroom at home)
Male	89	Fractured right humerus and right femur
Male	93	Fractured right humerus.

(c) Suicide.

Male	75	Barbiturate poisoning.
Male	42	Carbon monoxide poisoning.
Female	31	Asphyxia - plastic bag on head.
Female	79	Acute barbiturate poisoning.
Male	56	Barbiturate poisoning.
Female	62	Asphyxia - drowning.

(d) Open Verdict.

Male	58	Carbon monoxide poisoning.
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(e) Infant Deaths.

Male	2 days	Rh. incompatibility, prematurity.
Female	3 days	Prematurity.
Male	10 mins.	Cerebral oedema, cord around neck.

The following table shows the incidence of death in various age groups. (From returns supplied by the local Registrar of Births and Deaths).

	Males	Females	Total	Percentage
Under 1 year	2	1	3	0.6
1 - 4 years	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	1	-	1	0.2
25 - 34 years	1	2	3	0.6
35 - 44 years	3	-	3	0.6
45 - 54 years	16	5	21	5.0
55 - 64 years	42	21	63	11.5
65 - 74 years	75	55	130	22.8
75 and over	94	171	265	58.7
Total	234	255	489	

INFANT MORTALITY.

The infant mortality rate represents the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births registered. During 1970, 2 male and 1 female infants died. This represents an infant mortality rate of 9, which is much lower than for England and Wales, 18.

The following table gives the infant mortality rate for the last ten years:

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
No. of deaths under 1 yr.	4	5	4	4	7	4	2	3	6	3
Infant Mortality rate per 1000 live births.	14.4	16.4	13.1	11.8	23.1	12.1	6.0	10.0	20.0	9.0

The causes of the deaths of the three infants were as follows:-

Male	2 days	Prematurity Rh. incompatibility.
Male	10 mins	Cerebral oedema
Female	3 days	Prematurity.

8. CANCER.

Deaths from cancer remained at approximately the same as the previous year, 84 in 1970.

(a) The parts of the body affected are given in the following table:

Site	Males	Females	Total
Stomach	5	4	9
Intestine	5	8	13
Lung, bronchus	11	3	14
Breast	1	9	10
Uterus	-	2	2
Prostate	4	-	4
All other sites	15	17	32
Total	41	43	84

(b) The following table shows the incidence of lung cancer compared with other forms of cancer for the last ten years:-

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Lung cancer	10	16	9	13	14	16	12	16	19	14
Other sites	47	51	50	62	62	65	58	59	66	70

(c) The incidence of deaths from cancer during the last ten years are as follows:

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Number of cases	57	67	59	75	76	81	70	75	85	84
Percentage total no. of deaths	16.9	17.4	15.9	19.1	18.7	17.4	18.4	18.4	19.3	15.7
Rate per 1,000 resident population	2.90	3.38	2.85	3.60	3.60	3.73	3.11	3.23	3.60	3.50

9. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year, 36 cases of notifiable infectious diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) were reported, which is 48 cases less than last year.

(a) Measles - There were 27 cases of measles in 1970, all of a mild nature. The seasonal incidence of measles in Exmouth was as follows:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
-	nil	-	-	-	2	16	6	1	1	-	1
	nil			2			23			2	

Immunisation against measles has been offered to all school children and pre-school children and the response on the part of the parents has been very good. It is hoped that as a result of this campaign the expected rise in the incidence of measles, which normally occurs every three or four years, will not take place.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The incidence of new cases of tuberculosis brought to the notice of the Medical Officer during the period 1961 - 1970 is as follows:-

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Pulmonary m.	5	2	1	11	1	3	-	-	1	2
Pulmonary f.	3	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1
Non-Pulmonary m.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Pulmonary f.	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	3	1	-
Total	8	4	2	12	1	5	4	3	2	3

Table showing the incidence of all forms of tuberculosis - Rates per 1,000 estimated resident population.

Year	Cases Notified. (per 1,000 resident population).	Death Rate
1952	0.93	0.29
1953	0.93	0.06
1954	0.63	0.06
1955	0.97	0.11
1956	0.78	-
1957	0.44	0.11
1958	-	-
1959	0.49	0.05
1960	0.27	-
1961	0.41	0.05
1962	0.20	0.05
1963	0.10	-
1964	0.09	-
1965	0.05	0.05
1966	0.23	-
1967	0.18	0.05
1968	0.13	0.04
1969	0.12	-
1970	0.12	-

NATIONAL HEALTH FACILITIES.

The Health Service provided under Parts II and III of the National Health Service Act applicable to your district are briefly set out below:

Part II.

Hospital Facilities.

General. - The Urban District is well served by the Exmouth Hospital, Claremont Grove, Exmouth Tel. 4381 where there is accommodation for:-

Males	13 beds		
Females	15 beds	General &	
Children	5 beds	Private	12 beds.

In addition to the Exmouth Hospital, use is made of;

- (a) The Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Southernhay East, Exeter.
Telephone 72261 - 302 beds
- (b) Redhills Hospital, St. Thomas, Exeter.
Telephone 76481 - 137 beds
- (c) Exeter City Hospital, Heavitree Road, Exeter.
Telephone 77351 - 257 beds.
- (d) Princess Elizabeth Hospital, Wonford Road, Exeter.
Telephone 54217 - 111 beds.
- (e) West of England Eye Infirmary, Magdalen Street, Exeter.
Telephone 73183 - 62 beds.

The plastic surgery clinic for Devon is held at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital on the second Thursday morning of every month. Mr. Fitz-Gibbon and Mr. Bodenham of the South West Regional Hospital Board attend.

Maternity.

- (a) Redhills Hospital, St. Thomas, Exeter. - 10 Beds.
- (B) Exeter City Hospital, Heavitree Road, Exeter - 49 beds
31 cots

Isolation.

Cases of infectious diseases are admitted to the Isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter, Tel. 67158, as in previous years, when necessary.

Smallpox.

Cases of smallpox or suspected smallpox will be admitted to the Smallpox Isolation Hospital at Likseard, Cornwall. Consultants who may be called upon to assist in the diagnosis of smallpox are:

East Devon - Dr. E.J.G. Wallace,
Health Centre, Westham Road,
Weymouth, Dorset.

Cornwall & Devon to River Exe. -
Dr. W.H. St. John Brooke,
West Cornwall Hospital,
Penzance, Cornwall.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological and serological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratories, Church Lane, Exeter. Tel. 77833, under the direction of Dr. B. Moore, whose ready co-operation and help I wish to acknowledge.

Venereal Disease.

Free advice and treatment is available to all persons at the following centre:

	Males	Females
Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital .	Monday 7 - 8 p.m. Friday 2 - 3 p.m.	Monday 6 - 7 p.m. Friday 3 - 4 p.m.

Ambulance Facilities.

Three ambulances are maintained at the Ambulance Station, Bastil Hall, Elm Grove, Exmouth. All are equipped with radio telephone communication systems.

In the district served, the ambulances have carried 4,017 patients, and have attended 84 street accidents and 40 home cases. The total mileage covered during the year was 50,852.

Part III.

Care of Mothers and Children.

There are five Health Visitors assigned to this district. Help is given at the various centres by lady volunteers, whose assistance is greatly appreciated.

Two medical officers attend the Infant Welfare Clinics, Dr. J. Allott and your Medical Officer of Health. The centres are the Devon County Council Clinic at Withycombe Village Road, on Wednesday and Friday from 2.00 to 4.30 p.m., and the Church Hall, Littleham, every second and fourth Monday of each month from 2.00 to 4.30 p.m.

Exmouth Clinic.

Number of Sessions Held.	Total attendances by Infants.	Total attendances by children 1 - 5
102	1505 (new cases 275)	574 (New cases 22)

Littleham Clinic.

Number of Sessions Held	Total attendances by Infants.	Total attendances by children 1 - 5
23	176 (new cases 23)	207 (New cases 13)

Welfare Foods are supplied at the Exmouth Infant Welfare Centre on Wednesday and Friday afternoons of each week and at the Church Hall, Littleham every Monday afternoon; also at the W.R.V.S. Headquarters, 2 Bicton Street, Exmouth, on Monday Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, from 2.00 to 4.30 p.m.

Maternity.

The area is served by six District Nurses, two of whom are part-time, and two Midwives. They are based at the Devon County Council Health Clinic at Withycombe. Each is in possession of a motor car and all are fully trained in analgesics and the use of resuscitation apparatus.

Care of Premature Infants.

When necessary, arrangements can be made for the admission of a premature baby and its mother to the nearest Maternity Unit, at the Exeter City Hospital, where there are 31 cots for premature babies.

Dental Care of Mothers and Young Children.

A well equipped surgery is provided at the Devon County Council Clinic at Withycombe Village Road, Exmouth, at which dental treatment can be given to mothers and young children every Friday by appointment.

The following paragraphs have kindly been supplied by the Senior Public Health Inspector:

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH.

General.

The scope of this includes visits and inspections in relation to the work described under all the various sections which follow, but in particular, work under the provisions of the Public Health Acts, including nuisances, Housing Acts, and the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act.

During the year, 152 complaints were received. This was a 20% increase on the previous year. The various matters were investigated and the necessary action was taken in those cases with which the Council had power to act.

In the course of this work, 24 nuisances were abated. Drains at 16 premises were cleared. In 7 instances repairs were effected to drains by the owner after informal notice.

This year it was not necessary to serve any statutory notices under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Two combined drains (Sec. 24, Public Sewers), were cleared and one required repair after investigation.

In two instances, upon request, an accumulation of rubbish was removed from premises by the occupiers.

This year, 10 complaints of alleged noise nuisance were received. Again this was an increase of 2 compared with the previous year. As a result of investigating these cases, there was sufficient evidence to substantiate a statutory nuisance in four cases only. All of these have been remedied. The complaints related to noise from unmuffled road drills, compressor and refrigeration motors working at night, electric saw, circular saw and general noise from industrial and commercial premises.

Housing.

The Council through their appropriate Committee, considered the condition of 7 properties and resolved to make as follows:-
3 Closing Orders under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1967 (Parts of Buildings) 2 demolition Orders and 1 Closing Order under Section 17 of the Housing Act 1957. In one case, they accepted an undertaking under the provisions of Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957. The basement rooms at a property in the district were made to comply with the Underground Rooms Regulations as a result of informal action. Fire protection work as advised by the Chief Fire Officer have been carried out at a house in multiple occupation.

As a result of informal action by the Department, a further 21 houses were repaired to a satisfactory standard. The repairs included, roofs, walls, remedying general dampness and in one case treatment for dry rot.

HOUSING ACT 1969.A. Improvement Grants.

Applications have continued to be received for both Standard and Discretionary Grants under the above Act and a table is appended below to illustrate the trend for the last 5 years.

<u>Improvement Grant Table.</u>					
	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Standard Grants;					
(i) Approved	25	27	23	19	18
(ii) Completed	25	26	20	14	19
(iii) Grant Paid	£ 3077	3094	2704	1836	2128
Discretionary Grants.					
(i) Approved	2	0	5	10	14
(ii) Completed	1	0	2	6	15
(iii) Grant Paid	£ 285	0	800	1804	6882
Total Grant Paid.	£ 3362	3094	3504	3640	9010

Notes on the 1970 applications.(a) Standard Grants (for the provision of the Standard Amenities).

A total of 18 applications were received. 15 of the applications related to owner/occupied properties and 3 for those otherwise occupied or vacant. Average grant paid was £112.

The bathroom was built as an extension in two instances.

The Standard Amenities provided were:

- 15 baths
- 15 wash-hand basins,
- 11 inside W.C's.
- 18 hot water systems,
- 2 sinks.

(b) Discretionary Grants. (for the improvement of sub-standard houses, or the provision of dwellings by conversion).

A total of 14 applications were received. 9 of the applications related to owner/occupied properties, and 5 were otherwise occupied. The average grant paid was £458.

(c) Compulsory Improvement.

One house was provided with the Standard Amenities following the service on the owner of a Notice under Section 19 of the Housing Act 1964.

Conclusions.

The table shows that the total grant paid last year, almost trebled and whilst the number of Standard Grants has, over the years, tended to decrease, improvements carried out with the help of Discretionary Grants has shown a marked increase. In view of the range of improvement and repair works which may now be carried out with the aid of Improvement Grant this trend may be expected to continue.

B. Qualification Certificates.

Owners of houses subject to controlled tenancies can apply to the Local Authority for a Qualification Certificate where the house is in a good state of repair and has, or is to be provided with, Standard amenities. When a Certificate is issued, the tenancy is converted to a regulated tenancy and the Rent Officer fixes a Fair Rent. If when dealing with the application it is considered that works of repair are required, before a Certificate may be issued, the owner is advised accordingly and the application held over until repairs are completed.

8 applications were received during the year, one was granted and one was refused and the others were receiving attention at the end of the year.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

The specialist firm employed by the Council carried out the following disinfestation treatments:-

- 2 houses for fleas.
- 39 wasps nests destroyed
(4 of which were in Council Houses).

CAMPING AND CARAVANNING.

There are three sites within the Urban District, as follows:-

(a) Sandy Bay Holiday Park.

Fields at Westdown Farm, Littleham, bearing the Ordnance Survey numbers: 189, 190, 197, 198, 200, 203, 512, 514, 515, 516, 519, 520, 521, 524, 526, 531, 532, 534, 535 and 536.

Area = 159.7 acres. Licensed for 2,650 moveable dwellings, which represents a density of 17 caravans to the acre.

(b) Higher Orcombe.

Fields at Higher Orcombe bearing the Ordnance Survey numbers:

500, 502, 504, 506 and 507.

Area = 24.7 acres. Licensed for 82 trailer caravans of a type approved by the Council, which represents a density of 3 caravans to the acre.

(c) Orcombe Heights

Fields at Orcombe Heights bearing the Ordnance Survey numbers 499 and 503.

Area = 22.3 acres. Licensed for 50 tents or trailer caravans of a type approved by the Council, which represents a density of 2 moveable dwellings to the acre.

(d) Camping Census.

At the request of the Devon County Planning Authority the Annual Camping Census was taken during August.

(e) Camping at Unlicensed Sites.(i) Prattshaves Farm.

This site is still the only camping site for tents in the district and as it is open only for the peak holiday weeks, it does not come within the licensing provisions of the Public Health Act 1936. Consequently, by agreement with the Planning Authority, the number of tents is restricted to 32, and it is evident that many campers have to pass on elsewhere in view of the lack of sites for tents. Conditions at this site were satisfactory.

(ii) Scattered Sites.

This year there was one organised tented camp, which took place during August in 1 field at Woodlands Farm, Castle Lane, Littleham, and one organised camp in a field by Westdown Lane. Both were operated in a satisfactory manner.

During the year 42 visits were made to the permanent holiday sites, whilst 16 visits were made in connection with temporary camping.

SWIMMING POOL.

During the season routine visits were made to the Council Swimming Pool to verify the water treatment at the Pool. Samples of water were taken and sent to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and were reported upon as satisfactory. A complaint was received from a member of the public regarding suspended matter in the pool. A sample of this was sent to the Public Analyst who reported that it consisted of debris of vegetation, sand and clay and nematode worms. This occurrence would probably have been avoided if the water had been filtered.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.(a) Registered Premises.

The number and type of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 are:

The preparation or manufacture of preserved food.	35
The manufacture of ice cream.	5
The sale of ice cream	151
Total number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959	23

(b) Unsound Food.

Food condemned as unfit for human consumption consisted of:

<u>Canned Meats.</u>	lbs.	ozs.	cwts.	qtrs.	lbs.	ozs.
Cooked Ham (decomposition)	1.	0.				
Corned Beef "	30.	0.				
Ox Tongues "	6.	0.				
Stewed Steak "	3.	14.				
Luncheon Meat "	8.	0.				
Chopped Ham and Pork "	8.	0.				
	56.	14.		2.	0.	14.

<u>Other Foods.</u>	lbs.	ozs.	cwts.	qtrs.	lbs.	ozs.
Bacon (rancid)	12.	0.				
Garmon Ham (Decomposition)	15.	10.				
Cod "	56.	0.				
Dogfish "	14.	0.				
Hake "	11.	00				
Plaice "	28.	0.				
	135.	10.	1.	0.	24.	10.
<u>Tins of Food (Assorted).</u>						
60 tins, punctured blown or leaking.	146.	3.				
			1.	1.	6.	3.
<u>Total.</u>			3.	0.	3.	11.

All condemned food is disposed of by burying at the Council's refuse tip.

(c) Food Retailers.

During the course of the year routine visits were made to butchers shops, fish shops, fried fish shops, bakers shops, greengrocers and grocers shops. Again advice on proper stock rotation was given. As in the past advice has been given on food hygiene during visits. At a butcher's shop the lighting to the preparation room was improved.

(d) Bakehouses.

All six bakehouses in the district are operated by mechanical power and therefore, are classed as factories, since more than one person is employed in them. A satisfactory operating standard was maintained in the premises during the year. One bakehouse together with flour store has been redecorated and a new despatch section provided.

(e) Catering Establishments.

At two restaurants and one cafe it was found necessary for repairs and redecorations to be carried out. Apart from this the general standard of the premises continued to remain high.

(f) Hotels, Guest Houses and Nursing Homes.

During the course of routine inspection, it was found that at two guest houses alterations were necessary as follows - an intervening ventilated space provided between the kitchen and the W.C. and in the other case an intervening ventilated space formed between the bedroom and the kitchen. At another guest house, the lighting to the kitchen was improved and a wash-hand basin provided. From the inspections made it was evident that a good standard of hygiene was being maintained.

(g) Public Houses.

Satisfactory conditions continued at these places as a result of inspections. At two premises the lighting to the washing up area was improved.

(h) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

The number and type of food premises to which these Regulations apply are given in the table overleaf, which also indicates certain information requested by the Minister of Health and Social Security.

It will be noted that these Regulations apply to all the above types of food premises, which are also mentioned in the following table. The requirements of the Regulations were checked with the conditions existing at the premises during routine visits. The items dealt with have been included in their respective headings above.

(i) Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966.

Random inspection of food vehicles was kept up during the year and as a result the name and address of the person carrying on the business was required to be exhibited in two instances.

(j) Milk Supply.

The Devon County Council Sampling Officer has taken samples of raw milk and no reports of brucella abortus were received this year.

(k) Shellfish.

Visits were made at regular intervals to the shellfish factory at the Docks, occupied by Messrs. Exe Shellfish Ltd. During the year 11 samples of their shellfish were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory. All were found to be satisfactory.

(l) Poultry Inspection.

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

	(i) number of premises.	(ii) number of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 - (wash hand basin).	(iii) No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies - facilities for washing food & equipment	(iv) No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19.
Butchers	15	15	15	15
Dairies & Milk Distributors	35	35	35	35
Fish Shops	5	5	5	5
Fried Fish Shops	9	9	9	9
Bakers Shops	10	10	-	-
Bakhouses	6	6	6	6
Grocers	48	48	48	48
Restaurants & Cafes	30	30	30	30
Hotels, Guest Houses and Nursing Homes.	77	77	77	77
School Kitchens & Staff Canteens.	15	15	15	15
Public Houses	23	23	23	23
Greengrocers	16	16	16	16
Other Food Premises.	17	17	3	3
TOTAL	306	306	282	282

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.Rodent Control.(a) General. .

This year there was a decrease in the number of complaints received compared with the preceeding year. There were 71 complaints of rodents. Inspections revealed that 70 properties were infested. The work of rodent control has continued to be carried out by a specialist firm.

(b) Sewers.

In April the Annual Test Baiting of 10% of the sewer manholes was carried out. Unfortunately this indicated slight infestations in four lengths of the sewers. In accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food's requirements, these lengths together with adjoining manholes were subjected to a maintenance treatment later in the year and the sewers were cleared of rodents after this treatment.

(c) Council Property.

The following properties of the Council were treated in the course of the year:

Refuse Tip, Mudbank.
Hedgerow, loop road, Liverton Cottages.
Sewer outfall, Imperial Road.
Sheppards Row.
Pound Lane Allotments.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

(a) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises	Number on Register.	Number of:		
		Inspections	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	3	1	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1, in which Sec. 7 is enforced by local authorities.	88	41	-	-
3. Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority, (excluding outworkers' premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	91	42	-	-

(b) Cases in which defects were found.

	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To. H.M. Inspector. By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-
Ineffectove drainage	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences.				
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable of defective	3	3	-	2
(c) not separate for the sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act, not including offences relating to 'outwork'	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	3	-	2

(c) Homework (Sections 133 and 134).

Where work is given out from a factory and done in a private dwelling house, it is termed "homework" and the person who does the work is an "outworker". This control applies to certain classes of work as specified by Regulations made by the Secretary of State. The occupier of the factory concerned with "outworkers" is required to keep a list of all outworkers and send a copy of the list to the local authority during the months of February and August of each year.

Part VIII of the Act - 'Homework'.

Nature of Work	Number of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 133 (1c)	Number of cases in default in sending lists to Council.	Number of prosecutions for failing to supply lists	Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served.
Wearing apparel, making etc. cleaning, washing.	10	-	-	-	-
Brass and brass articles	24	-	-	-	-
Making of baskets.	7	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	41	-	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

During the course of the year inspection and revisiting of premises in connection with the above Act continued and new businesses were followed up. In premises where the lighting was suspected of being low, the premises and working surfaces were checked by light meter readings and the standards recommended by the Department of Employment applied. Following on from the visits the works listed in the table below, indicate the chief contraventions remedied.

<u>Works necessary.</u>	<u>Number.</u>
Cleanliness	2
Heating	2
Ventilation	2
Lighting	5
Sanitary conveniences required	2
Intervening ventilated space or mechanical ventilation provided to W.C's.	1
Overcrowding.	1
Provision of hot water supply	4
Provision of drinking water supply	1
Clothing accommodation	2
Floor, stairs and passages repaired	6
First aid materials.	18
Abstract of the Act	16
Thermometer	14
Provision of washing facilities	5
Guarding of Machinery	2
Suitable seats for sedentary workers	3

The following paragraphs have been kindly supplied the Housing and Welfare Officer, Mr. E.R. Ashton:

The main considerations in the 1970 Annual Housing Report to the Council were:-

- (a) Re-housing requirements of those families likely to be displaced as a result of the New Road and Town Centre Re-Development.
- (b) The Fair Rents Policy and possible effects.
- (c) Central Heating.
- (d) Housing Need - Statistics.

REHOUSING REQUIREMENTS.

A survey was made of those families likely to be affected by the New Road and Town Centre Re-Development Scheme with the object of ascertaining what their re-housing requirements would be and what their preferences were.

It was discovered that the highest proportion were elderly people who had lived in the town centre for some considerable time. They were loathe to move away and seemed to be under the impression that they would be accommodated somewhere in the town centre. Consequently their reaction to the visit was, on the whole, favourable, although some were obviously apprehensive.

The elderly, when the move has to be made, will need a lot of help and some will need to apply for a Supplementary Pension, for which they are at present not eligible. Some are owner/occupiers and still will not qualify for a Supplementary Pension, as the compensation they will receive for their properties would put them outside the Pension Scheme. These people have been used to managing on their pensions and may find it difficult to adjust to drawing from their compensation to pay rent, something which they have not been used to doing.

Elderly tenants will have problems when moving from their present environment and adjustment will, in many cases, be difficult. Every help will be given them, including a wardens service where necessary.

145 visits were made. 41 of the properties were void and after allowing for a few miscellaneous cases not requiring re-housing, a total of 94 tenants expressed a desire for accommodation. It will be appreciated that this total is likely to be less when the time for actual re-housing arises. The total is made up as follows:-

- 23 required - 3 bedroomed accommodation on existing Estates.
- 2 required - 2 bedroomed accommodation on existing Estates.
- 20 required - 3 bedroomed accommodation - prefer town centre.
- 27 required - 2 bedroomed accommodation - prefer town centre.
- 22 required - 1 bedroomed accommodation - prefer town centre.

FAIR RENTS AND POSSIBLE EFFECTS.

Although details will not be available for some time, broad decisions of principle of changes in housing finance has already been made by the Government (Hansard 3rd November 1970).

In view of the fact that the Council has often to determine housing policy some years in advance, it may be of interest to examine what information is available and its possible local effects.

The Government contend that ratepayers and taxpayers are being faced with growing subsidy bills and that subsidies are not being distributed so as to remedy the housing problems of the worst areas. The rents paid by tenants are related to neither the value of the accommodation or their capacity to pay. The help available to the poorer tenants in incomplete and haphazard and the present system of rent control in the private sector is creating new slums.

The intention is to extend the fair rent policy (introduced in 1965 to certain properties in the private sector) to Local Authority dwellings. There is to be a limit to the average increase in rent in any one year (the Rent Act 1965 limited this to 15%).

The Rent Act 1965 requires a fair rent to be determined by considering all the circumstances (other than personal) in particular age, character, locality of the house and state of repair. The effect of scarcity to be ignored.

A comprehensive rent rebate system was to be introduced, both for tenants of private and Council property where they could not meet the proposed new rents.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has already referred to the cut of housing subsidies by between £100 - £200 million by 1974-75, but there is no indication at present as to what effect this will have on individual Housing Authorities, other than financial. Fair rents will already have been fixed and existing rents will rise annually towards the new figures.

The demand for Council housing is particularly dictated by:

- (a) The continued reduction in the availability of private accommodation to let.
- (b) The increase in population of all age groups, both local and national.
- (c) The comparatively low level of local wages and the consequent inability of many people to obtain mortgages or to pay rents out of proportion to their incomes.

The above factors would indicate a continued demand for Council housing, but on the other hand some young existing Council tenants might wish to buy properties if they are in a position to do so. This might initially make more houses available for re-letting so that plans for future housing development will have to be very closely scrutinised in the light of the best available information.

CENTRAL HEATING.

This has now been installed in all but 10% of the Council's 300 Wardens Service bungalows and flats. The rent increase to cover the capital cost is 20 p. a week, the balance being made up by an Improvement Grant. The charge of £1.30 a week for gas (including cooking and hot water) is also included in the rent, consequently it was possible to negotiate with the Ministry of Social Security to increase tenants' Supplementary Pensions.

It is difficult to appreciate the advantages to the elderly tenants, many of whom are nearly or completely housebound. A constant source of heat completely under control, a warm bedroom during illness, no lighting of fires or doing without when the effort was too much. Constant hot water, absence of condensation and no quarterly bills are just some of the benefits.

Central heating was also offered to other tenants, gas, solid fuel or electric at $37\frac{1}{2}$ p. or $42\frac{1}{2}$ p. a week, and so far 338 installations have been completed.

This has been a most successful operation and at no cost to the Council.

HOUSING NEED (APPENDIX).

Families with a housing need total 317 and the grand total of the housing list is 527, a slight increase on last year (see Appendix). 98 dwellings were let or re-let, but within this figure many internal exchanges took place in order to make better use of available accommodation.

The most significant factor is an increase in new applications during the last two years, after ten years when the position was reasonably static.

ANALYSIS OF THE HOUSING NEED.

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED.

	3-bedroomed	2-bedroomed	1-bedroomed	TOTAL	Grand Total of Housing Applicants Including A.H.
December 1970	176	39	102	317	527
December 1969	164	34	120	318	503
December 1968	125	26	94	245	431
October 1967	123	38	104	265	450
December 1966	101	45	86	232	443
December 1965	132	35	95	262	466
December 1964	126	33	87	246	455
December 1963	129	34	88	251	477
December 1962	101	28	77	206	411
March 1962	81	39	82	202	384
March 1961	114	43	102	259	406
March 1960	77	33	62	172	342
December 1958	73	32	52	157	316
December 1957	79	34	35	143	303

ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED.

	3-bedroomed	2-bedroomed	1-bedroomed	TOTAL
December 1970	55	19	24	98*
December 1969	53	10	32	95*
December 1968	75	23	20	118*
October 1967	69	14	25	108*
December 1966	36	6	55	97*
December 1965	29	3	14	46
December 1964	32	3	11	46
December 1963	25	7	8	40
December 1962	48	3	49	100*
March 1962	50	5	30	85*
March 1961	28	2	31	61*
March 1960	24	6	7	37*
December 1958	41	8	8	57
December 1957	34	5	9	48

*including new building

NEW APPLICATIONS RECEIVED.

		Number considered to be in need of rehousing	
December 1970	235		115
1969	248	...	135
1968	177	...	102
1967	163	...	107
1965	190	...	152
1964	168	...	107
1963	200	...	133
1962	196	...	127
1961	190	...	116
1960	197	...	146
1959	210	...	115
1958	196	...	122
1957	198	...	118

